

real entity in- nature did come from nothing, and go to nothing.

Now, it may well be supposed, that all these ancient physiologers (the most of which were also Theists) did not keep such a stir about this business for nothing; and therefore we are in the next place to shew, -what it was that they drove at in it. And we do affirm, that one thing, which they all aimed at, who insisted upon the forementioned principle, was the establishing some Atomical physiology or other, but most of them at such as takes away all forms and qualities of bodies (as entities really distinct from the matter and substance), and resolves all into mechanism and fancy. For it is plain, that if the forms and qualities of bodies be entities really distinct from the substance, and its various modifications, of figure, site, and motion, that then, in all the changes and transmutations of nature, all the generations and alterations of body (those forms and qualities being supposed to have no real existence any where before), something must of necessity be created or produced miraculously out of nothing; as likewise reduced into nothing in the corruptions of them, they having no being any where afterward. As for example; whenever a candle is but lighted or kindled into a flame, there must needs be a new form of fire, and new qualities of light and heat, really distinct from the matter and substance, produced out of nothing, that is, created; and the same again reduced into nothing, or annihilated, when the flame is extinguished* Thus, when water is but congealed at any time into snow, hail, or ice, and when it is again dissolved ; when wax is by liquefaction made soft and trans-